National Spent Nuclear Fuel Quality Assurance Program

Bob Blyth

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Providing for safe, efficient disposition of DOE spent nuclear fuel

National Spent Nuclear Fuel Program

Agenda

- Program focus
- FY 02 accomplishments
- Suggestions to reduce the number of findings
- Issues we are working
- Best practices
- Plans for FY 03

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Program Focus

- Compliance with DOE/RW 0333P
- Ensure that DOE spent nuclear fuel satisfies the disposal requirements for the mined geologic repository
- Quicker closure of corrective actions
- Reduce cycle times

Program Accomplishments in FY 02

- Issued revised written program
- Completed required annual site audits
  - SRS, ORNL, RL
- QA program qualifications
  - INEEL non-licensed SNF
  - T-Plant
  - River Corridor
- Maintained qualified status with RW

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Corrective Action Status
National Spent Nuclear Fuel QA

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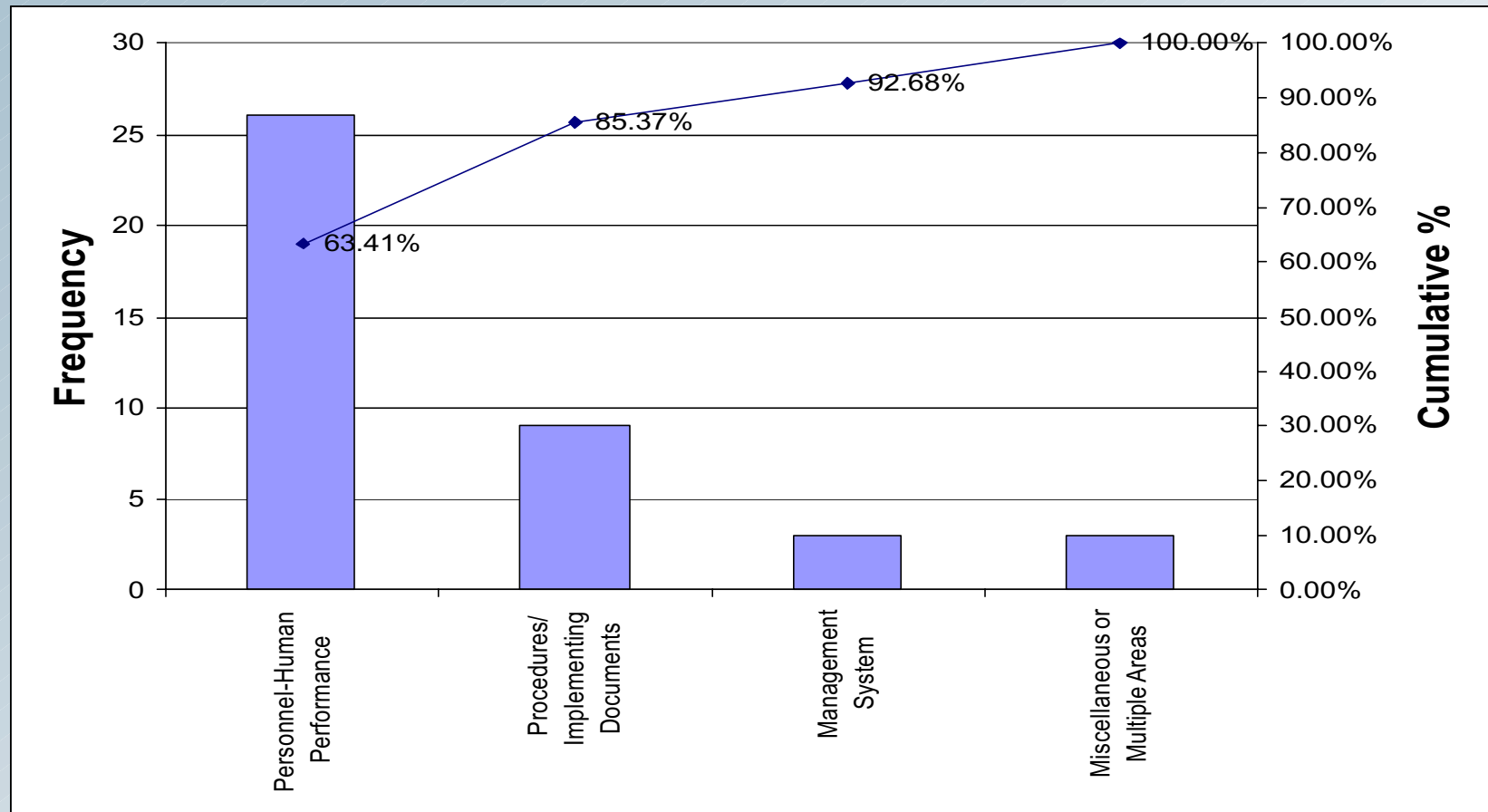# QA Program Improvements

- Cycle time reductions
  - *Reduce cycle times for key QA activities*
- Other QA Related Issues
  - i.e. records issue

Cause Code Distribution
for Calendar Year 2001

Cause Code Distribution
Calendar Year Comparison
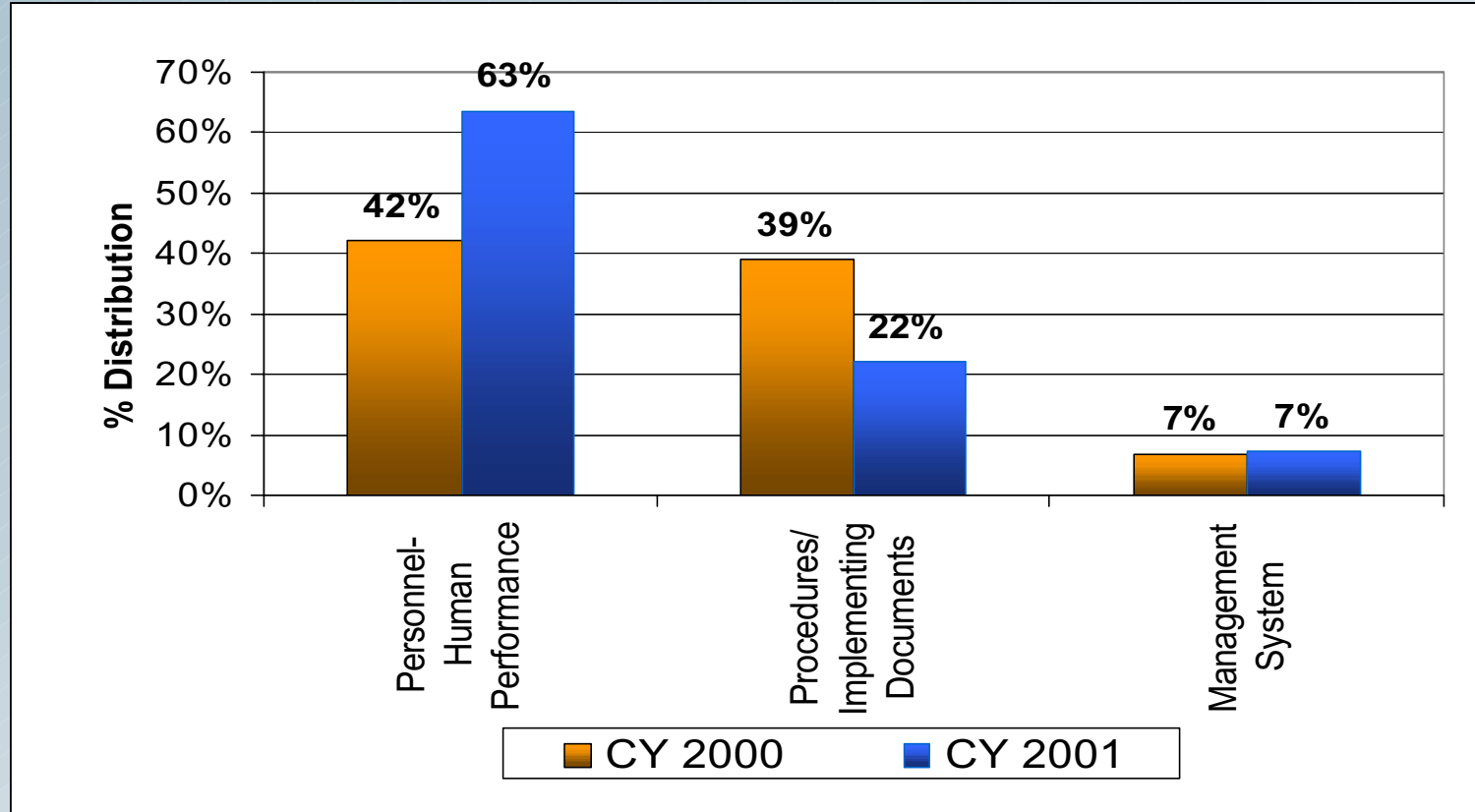
Suggestions to Reduce Findings

- Increase effectiveness of your site QA program
  - Provide adequate resources
  - Emphasize implementation
  - Foster a compliance-based operating culture
  - Increase commitment to compliance at all levels
    - Crispness – clearly defined requirements
    - Formality – of actions
- Minimize procedure changes
  - Significant improvement in CY 2001 over CY 2000

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QA Issues We are Working

- Transition of NSNF QA Program to RW
- QA Records

  Lifetime records are retained for the lifetime of the item or facility that the record applies to (see QARD Section 17.2.7), therefore, the classification of "lifetime" does not automatically require the record to be retained for the lifetime of the repository. The actual retention period of a lifetime QA record is dependent on the purpose of the record, and how it relates to a specific item or facility.

Best Practice

Signatures by
e-mail

Terri Reyes

Flour Hanford

[Teresa_L_Terri_Reyes@
rl.gov](mailto:Teresa_L_Terri_Reyes@rl.gov)

(509) 373-2030

Best Practice (Cont)

Documented
Graded Approach

*NSNFP
Procedure*
PSO 2.05

*Neal MacKay
NSNF Program
NLM@inel.gov
208-526-2539*

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What We Expect From Sites

- Strict compliance culture
- Effective site QA programs
- Faster corrective action implementation
- Open communication

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What to Expect From Us

- Continued strict compliance focus
- More responsive QA Program

Plans for FY 03

- Continue Site audits and surveillances
- Reduced NSNFP QA cycle times
- Actively pursue orderly transition to RW

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Questions

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